

STATE OF MONTANA
Department of Justice
FORENSIC RAPE EXAMINATION PAYMENT PROGRAM



Mike McGrath
Attorney General

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ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

TO: EMERGENCY ROOM STAFF

FROM: HOLLEY JOHNSON, OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

RE: FORENSIC RAPE EXAMINATION PAYMENT PROGRAM (FREPP)

DATE: JULY 1, 2005

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The Office of Victim Services (OVS) is pleased to announce the implementation of the Forensic Rape Exam Payment Program (FREPP) effective July 1, 2005. **FREPP provides direct payment to healthcare providers for forensic rape examinations for victims who have an exam within 72 hours of the crime and who choose NOT to report the crime to law enforcement.**

FREPP will pay the cost of a sexual assault examination to a **maximum** of \$600. Covered costs include complete and customary sexual assault examination, emergency room/facility charge, physician/nurse examiner charge, STD and pregnancy prophylaxis, blood and urine specimens for toxicology testing, supplies, laboratory testing, pharmaceuticals and mailing. Sexual assault victims cannot be billed for costs, fees, or charges associated with the forensic rape examination and may decline to use their private insurance or any other payment sources including Medicaid or Medicare. Medical services rendered as a result of physical injuries incurred at the time of the sexual assault may be billed to the victim.

Prior to August 15, 2005, FREPP will provide state-approved forensic rape examination kits and Reimbursement Claim Forms to all healthcare providers. **When you receive your shipment, please destroy all other kits currently in stock.**

Each kit is assigned a number, which is visible on the outside of the box. Next to the assigned number the healthcare provider is required to record the hospital/clinic control number in place of the victim's name in order to keep the rape kit anonymous. Record the assigned kit number and control number on the Patient Information Form located inside the envelope attached to the kit. Complete all other information as usual. **Completed Sex Crime Evidence Collection Kits must be mailed overnight directly to FREPP, Office of Victim Services, 1712 9th Avenue, Helena, MT 59601 as soon as possible after the examination.** Healthcare providers are to submit a Reimbursement Claim Form, Patient Information Form, itemized charges (HCFA) and a copy of the corresponding medical records and related notes to FREPP, P.O. Box 201410, Helena, MT 59620 for payment.

A copy of answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) and the Claim Form healthcare providers must use to apply to FREPP are attached. These documents will be available after July 31st, 2005 on the OVS website at www.doj.mt.gov/victims/forensicrapeexaminationpaymentprogram.asp. Please contact me at (406) 444-3653 or hjohnson@mt.gov if you have any other questions or need additional information.